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IAP9/Rec'd PCT/PTO 18 SEP 2006

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Naoki ITO

Attn: PCT Branch

Application No. New U.S. Patent Application

Filed: September 18, 2006

Docket No.: 129407

For: ELECTROLYTE LAYER FOR FUEL CELL, FUEL CELL, AND METHOD OF
MANUFACTURING ELECTROLYTE LAYER FOR FUEL CELL

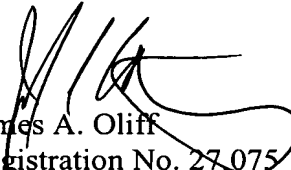
**TRANSMITTAL OF THE ANNEXES TO THE
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Attached hereto are the annexes to the International Preliminary Report on
Patentability (Form PCT/IPEA/409). The attached translated material replaces the claims in
their entirety from page 19 to page 20.

Respectfully submitted,


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CLAIMS

1. (Amended) An electrolyte layer for a fuel cell comprising:

5 a compact substrate through which passes a gas supplied to the electrochemical reaction, wherein the substrate includes hydrogen-permeability;

a porous layer with fine pores that is formed on the substrate; and

10 an inorganic electrolyte supported in the pores, wherein the electrolyte includes proton-conductivity.

2. (Cancelled)

15 3. An electrolyte layer for a fuel cell according to Claim 1, wherein the electrolyte includes a solid acid.

4. An electrolyte layer for a fuel cell according to Claim 1, wherein the electrolyte includes a liquid acid.

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5. A fuel cell comprising:

an electrolyte layer for a fuel cell according to any one of Claims 1 through 4, and

25 an electrode adjacent disposed adjacent to the porous layer, on the side opposite the substrate.

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6. (Amended) A method of manufacturing an electrolyte layer for a fuel cell, the method comprising:

preparing a compact substrate through which passes a gas supplied to the electrochemical reaction, wherein the substrate
5 includes hydrogen-permeability;

forming a porous layer with fine pores on the substrate;
and

supporting an inorganic electrolyte in the pores, wherein the electrolyte includes proton-conductivity.

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7. (Cancelled)

8. A method of manufacturing an electrolyte layer for a fuel cell according to Claim 6, wherein

15 the electrolyte includes a solid acid, and
the supporting the inorganic electrolyte includes
introducing a solution of a solid acid into the pores of
the porous layer, and
drying the porous element containing the solution.

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